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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted to the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.6(d) on the date indicated.

Zielen May 10, 2005

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventors: L. Rhambatla et al.

Filing Date: October 31, 2001

Serial No: 10/001,267

Docket: 093/004p

Title: PROCESS FOR MAKING HEPATOCYTES

FROM PLURIPOTENT STEM CELLS

Art Unit: 1632

Examiner: Thái-An N. Ton, Ph.D.

## SECOND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116

Commissioner for Patents Alexandria VA 22313

Dear Sir.

This paper is responsive to the final Office Action on the merits, dated December 15, 2004, for which a response is due March 15, 2005. This paper is accompanied by a Petition for a two month extension of time. Accordingly, this paper is timely filed.

Careful consideration has been given to the analysis made by the Examiner in the Office Action. The following remarks place the application in better condition for allowance or appeal. Applicant requests entry of this paper into the application, pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.116(b).